UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COURT POLICY REGARDING ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN COURTROOMS 5: 06

3:06 mc 5020

Effective November 21, 2006, the following policy will govern the possession and use of electronic devices in the United States District Courthouses for the District of South Carolina.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

The following items may <u>not</u> be brought into the courthouse: cell phones, wireless email devices such as the BlackBerry or Treo, tape recorders, cameras, or personal digital assistants such as the Palm Pilot. If such items are brought to the courthouse, they must be left with security upon entering the courthouse. The Court and the Marshal's Office assume no responsibility for items left with security.

RESTRICTED ITEMS

Laptop computers are allowed in the courthouses under the following terms and conditions:

Attorneys, paralegals, witnesses and other support staff: These individuals will be permitted to bring laptops into the courtrooms provided they secure the approval of the judge presiding over the case. Such approval may be given by telephone. Judges and members of the judge's chambers and courtroom staff are authorized to give this permission.

Other Persons: Each individual judge retains the discretion to permit other persons (e.g. members of the public and representatives of the news media) to bring laptops into the courtroom on a case-by-case basis.

Any person bringing a laptop into a United States District Courthouse shall use the laptop only for purposes of evidence presentation, research, emailing and note taking. Under no circumstances may these devices be used to conduct audio or video recording of courtroom proceedings. Violation of this policy will subject the offender to confiscation of the laptop and possible contempt sanctions.

For the Court

Joseph F. Anderson, Jr.

Chief United States District Judge

Columbia, South Carolina November 21, 2006

United States District courthouse Electronic Device Authorization Log

understand that violation of this policy may result in confiscation of my equipment and possible contempt sanctions. I understand that laptop computers taken into United States District Courthouses may be used only for evidence presentation, research, emailing, and note taking and may not be used for audio or video recording. I also

CSO Printed Name								
Authorizing Judge				•				
Electronic Device Requested								
Signature								
Printed Name								
Time								
Date								